

March 4, 2010

To: The Energy and Technology Committee

I want to thank the Energy and Technology Committee for giving me the opportunity to be heard today. I am a resident of Canton, CT. My husband and I built a passive solar home about 15 years ago, and in 2008, thanks to the CT Clean Energy Fund and Aegis Electric, one of the few solar installer companies still left in Connecticut. We were able to add a 5.5-kilowatt solar PV system and a solar hot water system to our home.

Since our installation, I have been educating people on the benefits of renewable energy. I have seen interest at all levels of the community, school children through town officials. People ask how they too can benefit from solar energy. I tell them about the CT Clean Energy Options, the solar lease program and solar thermal rebates. I tell them how it is my dream that every building with sun shining on its roof would have a solar PV or at least a solar hot water system. I tell them how our town has earned a 3-kilowatt PV system through the CT Clean Energy Fund and how it will soon be installed, on the water treatment control facility. This system, installed by a team professionals from yet another Connecticut solar company will have a computer link where our 9th grade children will study it as part of their renewable energy science unit. There is also community wide interest and support for adding solar at our high school. Within the next two years, the roof at Canton high will need replacing. The board of education has inquired how they could afford a large solar array for the roof.

In closing, it is my hopes that there is a booming solar industry with funding and programs available for this project and for every other solar project our residents and communities can think of.

I urge you to support bill number 5362.

Thank You,

Wendy Madigan

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